5

10

<u>Data Collection Node that Utilizes HTTP Transfer Protocols for Autonomous Data</u> <u>Transfers</u>

ABSTRACT

A data collection node and method for using the same to autonomously collect data. The node has interfaces for receiving signals from a sensor, and for connecting the data collection node to a computer network. A controller in the node causes the node to be registered with a server connected to the computer network when the data collection node is first activated on the computer network. As part of the registration process, the server provides a Web page that provides access to data communicated by the controller. The controller generates data based on sensor measurements and communicates that data to the server via the computer network, preferably via HTTP. Users having access to the Web page can then access the data collected by the node. If a firewall is present between the server and the node, the controller preferably communicates with a proxy server.